

REMARKS

The process claims have been canceled and replaced with new claims 19 to 27 in a sincere attempt to advance prosecution. The claims before the Examiner thus are claims 1 to 10 and 19 to 27.

Enclosed are replacement Figs. 20 to 23 bearing a prior art legend.

The specification has been amended to conform the element numbers described at pages 28 and 29 with those that appear in Fig. 18. (Certain minor self-evident changes have been made in that portion of the specification as well.) Thus, there is no need to correct that figure.

The objection to the first paragraph of page 30 of the specification is noted. The Examiner is referred to the third full paragraph on page 33 where element numbers 63 to 65 are discussed; element 26 is referred to on page 20 of the specification in a discussion of Fig. 1. The specification is believed complete. If the Examiner feels otherwise, he is asked to contact the undersigned.

The objection to claims 11 to 18 as of improper dependent form is rendered moot by their cancellation and the

presentation of new process claims 19 to 27, which do not depend from apparatus claims.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10 to 15, 17, and 18 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Aoki '350 in view of Zahuta '639 is respectfully traversed.

Although applicants acknowledge and note with appreciation the detailed justification of the rejection at pages 3 to 7 of the Office Action, applicants respectfully submit that the references in combination do not teach or suggest the subject matter claimed here.

The instant claims are directed to an apparatus and a method for the production of an organic electroluminescence display device having at least a lower electrode, an organic luminescence medium, and an upper electrode. A major aspect of the invention is being able to form an organic electroluminescence display device where one can control the moisture content of the organic luminescence medium in the device; see page 6, line 16 to page 7, line 17 of the specification. A low moisture content means that there can be a great suppression of dark spot generation; see the examples, both working and comparative.

Aoki '350 is directed to the production of a plasma display panel but there is no description in the reference of any sort of apparatus used to produce same. Moreover, the plasma display panel is quite different from an organic electroluminescence display device which is made by the apparatus and method of the present invention.

Combining the disclosure of Aoki '350 with that of Zahuta '639 does not, with respect, lead the person of ordinary skill in the art to the present invention for a number of reasons. The first reason is that the secondary reference is directed to the production of a dewar assembly, a device significantly different from an organic electroluminescence device made in and by the process of the present invention. In addition, there is no reason given why one should take various disclosures from the secondary reference, combine them with a reference that contains no pertinent discussion with respect to the apparatus for the production of an entirely different device and conclude that the claimed subject matter would have been obvious. (Even with the improper resort to hindsight, the references do not teach or suggest what applicants claim; the references even when forcibly fitted do not teach the claimed invention.) Furthermore, the broadest claim requires

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that ⁶carrying units being set up between the respective four listed units in the apparatus; there is no proper teaching or suggestion in the references singly or collectively to direct the person of ordinary skill in the art to the invention as claimed herein. The rejection should be withdrawn.

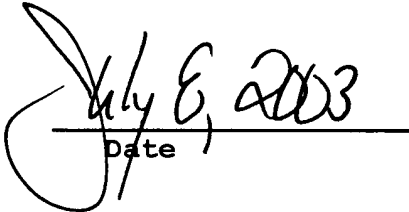
The rejections of claims 3 to 5 and 16 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Aoki '350 in view of Zahuta '639 in further view of Itoh '939 and the rejection of claims 8 and 9 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over Aoki '350 in view of Zahuta '639 in further view of Robinson '893 are respectfully traversed. The tertiary references in each of these rejections do not overcome the deficiencies of Aoki '350 and Zahuta '639 discussed above. The rejections should be withdrawn as well.

The Examiner is thanked for acknowledging receipt of the certified copy of the priority document and for listing references submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement.

In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 to 10 and claims 19 to 27 are in condition for allowance and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited.

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The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to former allowance.


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Respectfully submitted,


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